

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn - currently amended): A method of identifying a bacteria in a sample, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a sample suspect of comprising a bacteria to be identified;
- b) exposing the sample to an antibody specific for [[a]] lipoprotein I of the bacteria and an agglutination reagent, wherein the antibody comprises monoclonal antibody PS2;
- c) allowing the sample to react with the antibody and the agglutination reagent; and
- d) whereby the presence of the bacteria is indicated if an agglutination occurs.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the bacteria to be identified comprises an oxidase-positive organism.

Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (withdrawn - currently amended): The method of Claim [[3]] 2, wherein:

the agglutination reagent comprises a strain of *Staphylococcus* bacteria.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 4, wherein:

the organism comprises *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Claim 6 (withdrawn - currently amended): A method of identifying *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in a sample, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a sample suspect of comprising *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*;
- b) cultivating organism in a suitable medium;
- c) removing a portion of the cultured organism and exposing to a first reagent;
- d) exposing the organism obtained in step c) to second and third reagents, the second reagent comprising an agglutination reagent and the third reagent comprising an antibody specific for [[a]] lipoprotein I of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, wherein the antibody comprises monoclonal antibody PS2;
- e) allowing the components in step d) to react; and
- f) whereby the presence of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is indicated if an agglutination occurs.

Claim 7 (withdrawn - currently amended): The method of Claim 6, wherein:

the step c) of removing and exposing a portion of the cultured organism to a first reagent comprises extracting from the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* organism [[a]] lipoprotein I by an extraction reagent.

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 6, wherein:

the agglutination reagent comprises a strain of *Staphylococcus* bacteria.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 9, wherein:

the *Staphylococcus* strain is stained generally blue; and
the presence of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is indicated by a generally blue agglutination.

Claim 11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 6, wherein:

the step b) comprises incubating for a period of about 18 to 24 hours.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of:

- g) isolating oxidase-positive organism from the medium prior to step
- c).

Claim 14 (currently amended): A kit for testing the presence of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in a sample, comprising:

- a) an agglutination reagent; and
- b) an antibody specific for [[a]] lipoprotein I of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*[[.]]; and
- c) wherein the antibody comprises monoclonal antibody PS2.

Claim 15 (original): The kit of Claim 14, further comprising:

- a) a reagent for extracting the lipoprotein from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Appl. No. 10/502,464
Amdt. dated January 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of July 17, 2006

Claim 16 (original): The kit of Claim 15, wherein:

- a) the agglutination reagent comprises a strain of *Staphylococcus* bacteria.

Claim 17 (cancelled).

Claim 18 (original): The kit of Claim 15, further comprising:

- a) a negative control reagent.